

Bloomington Arts Commission—Commissioner Profiles

September 2012



Alain Barker (Council Appointment – 1/13)

Appointed to the Commission in 2008, Alain Barker is currently Director of Marketing and Publicity at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music. Previously, he spent ten years as the Executive Director of the Bloomington Early Music Festival (BLEMF.) Taking leadership of BLEMF in the fall of 1994, Barker transformed the festival from a small collection of concerts performed by local musicians into a festival of national significance.

Having lived and worked on three continents (Africa, Europe, and North America), Barker brings a deep appreciation of cultural diversity in the arts to his work. Barker has also worked as a consultant to the Garth Newel Music Center in Virginia, as contractor and orchestra manager for the Bloomington Chamber Singers, agent, organizer and publicist for numerous local concert series and artists, manager and performer for three international tours by Aguavá New Music Studio, and manager for two US tours of the Legêne, Kuijken, Gibbons Chamber Trio.



Martina Celerin (Council Appointment – 1/15)

Martina Celerin earned her doctoral degree in plant sciences from the University of Western Ontario and found herself in Bloomington by way of a postdoctoral position as a molecular geneticist in the Biology Department at Indiana University. In 2002 Martina decided to transition from science back to her roots as an artist; her current medium is fiber. By combining her experiences with 2-D art with needle felting and other fiber techniques, she has been able to push the dimensional limits of wall art and create weaving-felting fusions that are 3D tapestries. Martina is

actively involved with Bloomington's Fourth Street Festival of Art and Craft as president, as well as the BEAD Strategic Planning Committee, the Bloomington Spinners and Weavers Guild, and the Trashion-Refashion Show Committee. She lives in Bloomington with her husband, Jim Drummond, a faculty in Biochemistry at Indiana University, and their two sons.

Jan Grant (Mayoral Appointment – 1/14) Chair

Jan Grant received her Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Jacob School of Music and a Masters of Arts in Arts Administration from IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

After 12 years in arts administration positions on the east coast, Jan returned to Bloomington in 1992. Jan has served on the Lotus Education & Arts Foundation board for 6 years, one year as chair and is an alum of the Leadership Bloomington/Monroe County (LBMC); her LBMC project committee founded a middle school leadership program for Monroe County public and private schools. Jan has volunteered for a variety of arts and

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non-profit charitable organizations for special projects and fundraising activities. She currently works with her husband, David E. Lawler, in his private dental office and in their new Center for Sound Sleep practice.



Sally Gaskill (Council Appointment – 1/14)

Sally Gaskill is an arts administrator who has managed the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project since 2008. Prior, she worked in community arts development as director of arts councils in Bloomington, IN and Rochester, NY for fifteen years. She served as a grantmaker for the state arts agency in New Hampshire and the National Endowment for the Humanities, and directed an orchestra in Boston. Through her consulting practice she has developed cultural plans, evaluated over 100 arts organizations for the National Endowment for the Arts, and taught cultural policy for several institutions. A past president of the Indiana Coalition for the Arts, she

remains active in arts advocacy on the local, state and national levels. Sally received a B.A. from Colorado College and an M.A. in Arts Management from American University. She is a musician.



Peter Jacobi (Mayoral Appointment – 1/13)

Jacobi has served on the Bloomington Arts Commission since 1996. Prior, he served nine-and-a-half years as a commissioner on the Indiana Arts Commission, three of those as chair. Professionally, Jacobi is an emeritus professor in the School of Journalism at Indiana University and former professor and associate dean of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University. His professional journalistic background spreads across print and broadcast fields: as arts critic and writer for various newspapers, including *The Chicago Daily News*,

The Christian Science Monitor, and the Hollister Newspaper chain in north suburban Chicago; as editor of a magazine, *The Music Magazine/Musical Courier*, and freelance writer for others; as news writer, assignment editor, and on-air reporter for radio and television, including ABC and NBC News. Jacobi's professional experience also includes the vice presidency of Jack Hilton, Inc., a New York media training and speech coaching firm, and he continues to consult with corporate and institutional clients on communications issues and skills. Jacobi currently serves as music columnist and critic for the *Bloomington Herald-Times*. He continues to teach arts criticism and reporting and magazine reporting for the School of Journalism.

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Jean Kautt (Mayoral Appointment – 1/13)

Jean was appointed to the Arts Commission in 2011. In addition to her commission work, she serves on the Bloomington Urban Enterprise Association, the BEAD Steering Committee, and coordinates the BloomingArts Series for Bloomingfoods. Jean volunteers with the Lotus Foundation and has been the Fourth Street Festival site manager since 2007. Recently, Jean served as a 2012 Bloomington Photography Club juror.

Jean's professional career was in fashion industry sales and marketing before moving to Bloomington in 1998. Currently, she is the Member Services Coordinator for Bloomingfoods, managing education and outreach, administrating donations and fundraising programs, and scheduling interviews and events for visiting speakers and authors.



Mary Norman (Mayoral Appointment – 1/15)

Mary Norman moved to Bloomington in 2006 where she worked as a realtor for Jeanne Walters Real Estate and began her first undergraduate degree at Indiana University. In May 2011, she completed her degree with a certificate in Arts Administration and two minors: profit and non-profit management. As a McNair Scholar/SROP recipient, Norman had the opportunity to do research for the IU Art Museum's marketing department while earning her degree.

Prior to her move to Bloomington, Norman worked as the Travel and Tourism Program Director for Davenport College, as a restaurant proprietor, a realtor and is a licensed esthetician. Norman also caters locally for the Bloomington Playwrights Project and Stone Belt Artists exhibition openings. As an artistic entrepreneur and 2009 graduate of the Leadership Bloomington program, Norman enjoys her work as an arts project manager, grant writer, and artist representative. She is currently nurturing a few idea sprouts that may develop into a small business adventure. She is an avid collector, admirer, and patron of the arts.

Patricia Pizzo (Mayoral Appointment – 1/13)

Patricia was appointed to the Arts Commission in the mid 1970s. Pizzo works as a librarian and belongs to a variety of library associations. She was one of the founding members of the Bloomington Area Arts Council (BAAC) and has served as a docent at the Indiana University Art Museum for several years. In 2005 she was granted the Arts Leadership Award by the Bloomington Area Arts Council.

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Lynn Schwartzberg (Council Appointment – 1/14)

Lynn Schwartzberg has served on the BAC since 2007. Lynn is currently on the Advisory Boards of WTIU, WFIU, IVY Tech John Waldron Arts Center and on the BEAD Steering Committee. Additionally, Lynn serves as the lay representative from WTIU to the national Advocacy organization, APTS. During the annual Lotus Festival, Lynn is on two planning committees and manages the Festival Store.

When not officially serving on boards and committees, Lynn volunteers for the Buskirk-Chumley Theater, Lotus, WTIU and WFIU. She is an avid baker and teaches cooking classes throughout the state. In addition to her role as a certified

barbeque judge from the Kansas City Barbeque Society, she is a food columnist for the Bloomington Herald-Times.

Paul Sturm (Council Appointment – 1/15)

Paul Sturm has served on the BAC since June, 2011. His other volunteer duties include serving as Contributing Editor of The Ryder magazine, as a member of the Ivy Tech John Waldron Arts Center Advisory Board and the BEAD Steering Committee, and as a volunteer for Lotus Education and Arts Foundation and the YMCA. Paul was an active Bloomington performer and promoter from 1974-1988, and returned to Bloomington in 2007. He is Director of Development for Purdue University public radio, WBAA, and is adjunct faculty in Arts Administration for Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

Craig Widen (Mayoral Appointment – 1/14)

Craig Widen represented the Chamber of Commerce during his first 2 ½ terms on the BAC and currently serves as a mayoral Appointment. Widen has been the owner and operator of Tutto Bene Wine Cafe and Art Gallery since 2004. Tutto bene's business model has focused on integrating the arts into all aspects of business operations including employing artists and musicians, featuring (and compensating) musicians for performances; and establishing an adjacent gallery with an ongoing schedule of exhibits and special events. Service to the arts is a Widen family value: wife Marci is an active arts volunteer and son Jason was on the board of Lotus Education and Arts Foundation and is currently the producer of several world music festivals and other music outreach.

Susan Sandberg (Council Liaison)

Susan Sandberg is an at-large councilmember on the Bloomington City Council having started her sixth year in public service in January, 2012. Susan served as President of the City Council in 2008 and served again in 2011. She acts as council liaison with several community groups including the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation (BEDC), Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee, the Bloomington Entertainment and Arts

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District (BEAD) advisory committee, Bloomington Arts Commission and the Community and Family Resources Commission.

A social justice and anti-poverty activist, Susan is a former board member and past president of the South Central Community Action Program. Susan volunteers as a facilitator of the New Leaf/New Life arts and humanities program in the Monroe County Correctional Center. Working for the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Susan is a career advisor with the Office of SPEA Career Services. In 2009 Susan joined her friend and colleague from the Monroe

County Council, Jill Lesh, as co-host of the monthly City/County Citizen's Breakfasts. A founding member of the Democratic Women's Caucus, Susan has served as Vice Chair since its inception in 2004 following her first campaign for City Council in 2003. Her DWC involvement reflects Susan's commitment to preparing women for the pipeline to run for public office in support of diversity, competency and civility in local government.

Miah Michaelsen (Staff Liaison)

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As Assistant Director of Economic Development for the Arts, Michaelsen's responsibilities include leading management of BEAD (Bloomington Entertainment and Arts District), serving as a liaison with the City's Community Arts Commission, working with artists and community arts organizations to promote the arts as economic development, and coordinating public arts projects along the City's B-Line Trail and in BEAD character districts. Previous to her position with the City, Michaelsen was Executive Director of the Bloomington Area Arts Council. Prior to relocating to Bloomington in 2004, Michaelsen served as Executive Director of the Children's Hands-On Museum in Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Executive Director of the Kentucky Museum Association and Managing Director of Theatre Tuscaloosa.

A 2006 graduate of the Leadership Bloomington program, Michaelsen earned her Bachelor of Arts with Distinction in Theatre Arts from Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. She is a member of IU's Arts Administration Degree Program Advisory Council and is an Advisory Board member of the Buskirk-Chumley Theater and on the boards of Cardinal Stage Company and the Bloomington/Monroe County Convention and Visitors Bureau. She also has served as juror and panelist for numerous arts organizations, including the Indianapolis Arts Council, Fourth Street Festival of the Arts, and IU's Hope School of Fine Arts and has presented at numerous conferences on cultural tourism and arts management.

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Thank you for your interest in the Bloomington Arts Commission (BAC). For more information, please visit our BAC webpage on the city website at www.bloomington.in.gov.